



Jesse W. Walters Obituary

December 5, 1919 - December 7, 2003

A native of Cuthbert, GA, Mr. Walters lived most of his life in Albany. He graduated from the University of Georgia and the University of Georgia Law School. During World War II, he served in the Army Air Corps as a P-51 pilot stationed in England. Mr. Walters was admitted to the bar in 1949, and began his legal career in Albany with the firm of Peacock, Perry, and Kelley, beginning a 50 year association with H. Holcombe Perry. He was associated with the firm of Perry and Walters at the time of his death. He served as Dougherty County Attorney from 1962-1979, and served as the Dougherty County School Board attorney for 35 years. In 1972, he was admitted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Mr. Walters was preceded in death by his wife: Lucy Yancey Walters, his sister: Leila Walters Murray, and his brother Arthur Walters.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jesse W. Walters Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Uncle J.
Thanks for being such a wonderful uncle. We all will miss you.*

Ellen Yancey Hunt - December 17, 2003 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ In my 22 years in the law firm of Holcombe Perry and Jesse Walters and as the real estate lawyer in the firm, I worked very closely with Jesse W. Walters, particularly in his representation of Dougherty County, the Dougherty County School Board, Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, First State Bank and Trust Company, Carlton Company and many other clients with real estate matters. I was fortunate enough to be with him in our many condemnation cases for the county and learned much from him in those jury trials.

The major thing I learned from J. (he said his name was not "Jay") was to never give up. Many times we would find ourselves in a bad situation that I was sure we could not get out of. But 99 times out of 100 J. would work out of it. He was a bull dog, go-for-the-jugular", give-no-quarter, shoot-from-the-hip type of fighter/lawyer. If he had been born 50 years earlier, he would have been a excellent gun fighter; if he had gotten to Europe before World War II was over, he would have been an ace fighter pilot. "Surrender" was not in his vocabulary.

As all other lawyers in our firm, I had many unpleasant times with J., but I knew he didn't mean anything personal in his contrariness and learned that he was simply doing everything possible for the benefit of our clients and no effort was too much - as long as it was honorable, honest and the right thing to do. As difficult it was to live with for the moment, I knew he was fighting for the good of the client, which made it bearable in the long run.

I miss J., but he will always be a part of me because of what he taught me. And I very much appreciate the opportunity to have been associated with him for so many years.

I will not be surprised if on Judgment Day J. is not standing before the Golden Throne arguing with Saint Peter and God on behalf of some poor soul trying to get through the Pearly Gates - maybe

Marvin W. Mixon - December 16, 2003 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ *Mr. Walters was a mighty fine man! I loved him to pieces. I was a runner at Perry & Walters for a few years. Mr. Walters was one reason why I left there every day with a smile. He was really special to me!*

Kristy Long - December 12, 2003 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Mr. Walters was a remarkably talented and hard working lawyer and very kind to me from the early days of my law career. He will be missed.*

Dawn Benson - December 11, 2003 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *I wish I'd written down the war tales the table next to me at Pearly's was saying. Mr. Jay was there with his buddies that day a year or more ago. Despite his pain during his lunches there I'd always get a smile and a cheerful word. Please accept my sympathy for the loss of a fine gentleman.*

Elizabeth Champion - December 11, 2003 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *My condolences to Lee, Burke and other family members. I met Jay before moving to Albany and considered him a fine gentleman and person I could talk to for advice. He will be missed by Albany and all who knew him. He left a good name and a good reputation.*

Joe Marshall - December 11, 2003 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ I will always remember Mr. Walters very fondly. I worked at Perry & Walters for three years (1995-1998) and during that time I had the privilege of knowing this wonderful man. He made me laugh more times than I can count with his funny stories and his sense of humor. He was also always good for an argument and though he tried so hard to be tough sometimes, those that knew him always knew he had a heart of the very purest gold. I'll never forget the way he loved his family and his friends - and even his dog, Scratch. My thoughts, prayers and sympathy are with his family and many friends. Jay Bird Walters will never be forgotten and will be missed by many. Sincerely, Kelly (Knight) Mellen

Kelly Knight Mellen - December 10, 2003 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ He always greeted me with, "CATCHIN' ANY FISH?" ... I'll certainly miss him.

Steve Enfinger - December 09, 2003 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Jay was a wonderful example and inspiration. He was a caring man wrapped up in a crusty exterior. Working with him was an experience and an education. I pray for God to comfort you in this time of loss. I am sorry that my schedule will not permit me to attend the funeral.

L. Clayton Smith, Jr. - December 09, 2003 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ We send our love and prayers to you and your family. You will remain close to our hearts during this time.

Buddy and Carolyn White - December 09, 2003 at 12:00 AM

HP

“ Jay Walters was friendly to me when I was a child living in his neighborhood. He and Lucy would visit our house from time to time. He is the one I give credit for talking my stepfather into buying my first pair of contacts. (I could hardly wait to get rid of my glasses...it was around the time I got interested in "boys"!)

Burke, Lee, Gail, Caroline, (and the other family members I don't know personally)... I know you all did a super job checking on and loving Uncle Jay. It is with sympathy that I sign this message.

Holli Persall

Holli Persall - December 09, 2003 at 12:00 AM

GV

“ Such a kind man with such a sweet spirit. He will be greatly missed!

Gloria Verenakis - December 09, 2003 at 12:00 AM

FH

“ Fred & Sally Hunt

Fred & Sally Hunt - December 08, 2003 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ LEE & BURKE...WE JUST WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW WE ARE THINKING OF YOU DURING YOUR SORROW...LADD & ELMINA

LADD & ELMINA - December 08, 2003 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ Just wanted to let you know that we have you in our thoughts and prayers. We will miss Uncle Jay too. We plan to make a contribution in Uncle Jay's memory to Miss Lucy's Memorial Garden at St. Paul's.

Earle & Linda Fain Spurlock - December 08, 2003 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time of loss.

"Mr. Walters" had the growl of a bear but the heart of a lamb"

He will be missed.

Kathleen Thomas - December 08, 2003 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ When I think of Mr. Walters these days, a funny little exchange comes to mind.

A bunch of legal people were waiting in Mr. Walters' conference room one day for a late arrival. Mr. Walters made the comment, "I wish they'd come on, I've got to go to a birthday party."

Someone commented, "Is it your birthday, Mr. Walters?"

"No. It's my great-niece. I guess her mother told her she was going to have a party with a cake because when I asked her what she wanted for her birthday, she said 'Three candles.'"

Anita Brinson, Court Reporter - December 08, 2003 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ *A good friend who did many things for others nobody knew about. A kind, caring person and he will be missed by many. But he is now with his beloved Lucy.*

Lou Murphy - December 07, 2003 at 12:00 AM